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Federal Communications Commission
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DAVID L. SIERADZKI
COUNSEL
DIRECT DIAL (202) 637-6462
INTERNET DSQ@DC2.HHLAW.COM

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

COLUMBIA SQUARE
355 THIRTEENTH STREET, NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20004-1109
TEL (202) 637-5600
FAX (202) 637-5910

September 29, 1998

Magalie Roman Salas
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M St., N.W., Room 222
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service,
CC Docket No. 94-45;
Western Wireless Corp. Petition for Preemption,
Pursuant to Section 253 of the Communications Act, of
Kansas Statutes and Rules that Discriminate Against
New Entrants, File No. CWD 98-90;
Amendment of the Commission's Rules To Permit
Flexible Service Offerings in the Commercial Mobile
Radio Services, WT Docket No. 96-6**

Dear Ms. Salas:

I am writing on behalf of Western Wireless Corp. ("Western Wireless") to inform you of an *ex parte* presentation in the proceedings referred to above. Gene DeJordy, Executive Director of Regulatory Affairs, Western Wireless, and Michele Farquhar, Ronnie London, and I, counsel for Western Wireless, met yesterday afternoon with Walter Strack and Elizabeth Lyle of the Office of the Bureau Chief, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau ("WTB"); David Krech, Pieter van Leeuwen, and Tejal Mehta of the Commercial Wireless Division, WTB; Cindi Schieber, Ben Freeman, Anne Napoli, and Julie Buchanan of the Auctions & Industry Analysis Division, WTB; Mark Nadel of the Accounting Policy Division, Common Carrier Bureau; and Eric Jensen, Deputy Director, Office of Communications Business Opportunities. The issues we discussed are summarized in the attached documents, which we used as handouts during the presentation.

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Magalie Roman Salas

September 29, 1998

Page 2

Because the meeting took place late in the afternoon, I am filing this notice on the following business day. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "David L. Sieradzki".

David L. Sieradzki

Counsel for Western Wireless Corp.

Enclosures

cc: Walter Strack
Elizabeth Lyle
David Krech
Pieter van Leeuwen
Tejal Mehta
Cindi Schieber
Ben Freeman
Anne Napoli
Julie Buchanan
Mark Nadel
Eric Jensen

September 28, 1998

**Western Wireless Corporation Presentation on
Universal Service (CC Docket No. 96-45) and Related Matters**

1. *Universal Service Proceeding* (CC Docket No. 96-45)
 - a) Overall Policy Position
 - i) Consumer Sovereignty
 - A) Consumers should have the right to obtain supported *mobile* as well as stationary services, from providers using *wireless* as well as wireline technologies.
 - ii) Competitive and Technological Neutrality
 - A) There must be parity between the revenue support available to all Eligible Telecom Carriers ("ETCs").
 - B) Until implicit subsidies to ILECs are eliminated, wireless carriers and other new entrants should have access to the same *implicit*, as well as *explicit*, subsidies as ILECs.
 - b) State ETC Certification Process
 - c) Eligibility of New Entrant ETCs to Receive Explicit Universal Service Support
 - d) HAI Wireless Cost Model and the Cost Model Decisionmaking Process
 - e) Rural Task Force
2. *Kansas Preemption Proceeding* (File No. CWD 98-90)
 - a) The Kansas Fund Is A Barrier To Entry (Section 253(a))
 - b) The Kansas Fund Is Neither Competitively Neutral Nor Targeted To Promote Universal Service (Section 253(b))
3. *Wireless Local Loop*
 - a) Western Wireless' Vision
 - b) Recommendations for Pending Proceeding (WT Docket No. 96-6)

STATUS REPORT

Western Wireless Corporation State ETC Petitions Filed

As of September 28, 1998:

- Colorado August 28, 1998
- Kansas August 31, 1998
- Minnesota August 31, 1998
- Montana August 25, 1998
- North Dakota August 25, 1998
- Nebraska August 31, 1998
- New Mexico August 31, 1998
- Nevada August 31, 1998
- Oklahoma August 28, 1998
- South Dakota August 25, 1998
- Texas August 31, 1998
- Utah August 31, 1998
- Wyoming August 31, 1998

Total: 13 State ETC Petitions Filed

WW also plans to file ETC petitions in California, Iowa, Idaho, and Missouri